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ILLINOIS STATE SENATE

MAGGIE CROTTY

STATE SENATOR • 19TH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:

Local Government-Chairperson
Headth & Human Services
Licensed Activities
State Government
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules

November 30, 2006

Chairman Kevin Martin Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Room #8B-201 Washington, DC 20554

RE: Safe, Free Wireless Internet Accessibility

Dear Chairman Martin:

As a former teacher and school board member, I know the value the Internet can serve as a medium for improving the education our students can receive. While I support increased access to the network we also need to safeguard the safety of our children.

Our communities need a network that enhances the medium while at the same time safeguards our young from inappropriate material. I have read of proposals recently introduced to the Federal Communications Commission that seek to get approval for a free national wireless broadband access network. A wireless network like this would provide network level indecency solutions more securely than mere software solutions. Such network solutions are also much harder to circumvent.

Implementation of such a program would ensure a strong future for schoolchildren and enhanced Internet access itself while at the same time it would be a necessary first step in protecting our children online. I encourage you to approve any current proposals that would provide universal fast family-friendly Internet.

Sincerely,

Maggie Crotty

State Senator ~ 19th District

CC:

Commissioner Copps

Commissioner Adelstein

Commissioner Tate

Commissioner McDowell

FCC Secretary Marlene Dortch

Kathy Seidel, Acting Chief, Wireless Bureau

U.S. Senator Dick Durbin

U.S. Senator Barack Obama